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## A CENTURY OF AMERICAN FICTION.

The American novel is just one hundred years old. It took the colonists nearly two centuries to free their imagination from the physical and intellectual trammels imposed upon it by the hard necessity of making a virgin world into a habitation fit for man, and the still harder bondage of a theocratic conception of society. As long as the forests remained uncleared and the Indians unsubdued, and as long as men's minds were under the obsession of a grim theology, there was little hope for creative literature, and the writers who put pen to paper were chiefly urged by a desire to take part in some ephemeral controversy of religion or politics, or, at the utmost, by the hope of emulating certain favorite examples of the mother country's literary product. Thus the best of our early writings were imitative, and imitative our budding literature remained until a time within the memory of many persons now living. But the publication of Brown's "Wieland," in 1798, at least marked the beginning of the end of our long term of sterility, and this is why it becomes appropriate, in 1898, to ask what has been accomplished for us by a century of novel-writing.

When we entered upon the first decade of the present century, we had nothing to show in the form of fiction except the earliest of Brown's romances, and two or three such books as Susanna Rowson's "Charlotte Temple, a Tale of Truth," whose "pages were long bedewed with many tears of many readers." But the novel-reader of these days was not as insatiate in appetite as he has since become, and was well content with Richardson, and Fielding, and Sterne, and Miss Burney, if his taste were of the finer sort; with Walpole, and "Monk" Lewis, and Ann Radcliffe, if his imagination thirsted for mystery and gloom. He was probably happier with the few books of native origin that he did possess than our latter-day readers, who get more American fiction than they can possibly digest, yet wax indignant because the Great American Novel is so long delayed, and declaim upon the national folly of our liking all good books in the English language, even if they are written by our kin beyond seas, or translated from the tongues of the stranger.

It may prove interesting to take the present

century by decades, and see what each decennial period has done for the development of the art of novel-writing in the United States. We have seen how the account stood in the beginning; what had we to show for ourselves ten years later? It is a question easily answered. There were the rest of Brown's romances, a few such books as Tabitha Tenney's "Female Quixotism" and Caroline Warren's "The Gamesters," and—of greater significance than anything hitherto done in American letters—the book which, although not a novel, was to prove the starting-point of truly native inspiration in fiction, the famous "History of New York" by one Diedrich Knickerbocker. When another ten years had passed, the pioneer work begun with this delightful piece of quasi-historical and humorous fiction was still further emphasized by the publication of "The Sketch-Book." Of the stories included in this volume, Professor Richardson justly says: "They are local in scene and character, strong in delineation of the personages introduced, and thoroughly artistic in literary form and elaboration. . . . When to novelty in theme and form was added the easy serenity of an assured and confident literary touch, American fiction had clearly passed beyond the stage of apology and curiosity."

The year 1820 is also noteworthy as the year in which "Precaution" saw the light, and the most important thing to be said about the twenties is that they witnessed the development of Cooper's activity at the rate of one new novel for almost every year. It was evident that America had at last produced a novelist who had come to stay, and the acclaim with which Cooper was received both at home and abroad made it clear enough that the new world was ready to provide both the occasion and the field, and that men would soon be forthcoming to seize upon the one and cultivate the other. Meanwhile, "the obscurest man of letters in America," as Hawthorne once styled himself, was slowly passing through the chrysalis stage, and "Fanshawe," the first of his novels, was actually written during the late twenties, although the public was to know nothing about it until many years later, when the fame of the author as the greatest of American novelists had become fully assured.

Besides witnessing the continued production of Cooper's novels, the thirties brought into prominence the name of Paulding, the friend and collaborator of Irving, and the one book by that writer which still retains a precarious

hold upon life, "The Dutchman's Fireside," bears the date of 1831. The year following was the year of "Swallow Barn," which marked the beginning of a distinctively Southern variety of the American novel. Kennedy's slender contribution to our fiction falls wholly within this decade, as does also the first instalment of the romantic fiction that was for thirty years to flow in such a stream from the prolific pen of Simms. Nor must we forget to mention the name of Dr. Bird, if it be only to note the fact that the yellow-covered "dime" novel of a later generation traced its lineage back to "Nick of the Woods" and "The Hawks of Hawk Hollow." From the late thirties also date the popular "Zenobia" and "Aurelian" of William Ware, which still find admirers, we believe, in certain strata of the reading public. When this decade came to its close, the "Twice-Told Tales," first collected three years before, had shown the existence of a hitherto unexampled artistic force in American letters, the "Hyperion" of the year just preceding had given our public a faint but charming reflection of the romantic movement in Germany, while Poe's "Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque" made the year 1840 a landmark in the history of our fiction.

The fifth decade was distinguished by nothing more noteworthy than Herman Melville's stories of the southern seas, which appeared in rapid succession during these years. But the year that stands midway in the century is doubly significant, for it was in 1850 that Cooper's last novel saw the light, and that "The Scarlet Letter"—the most perfect piece of creative literature yet produced in the United States—was given to the world. The decade of the fifties was dominated by the genius of Hawthorne, and brought forward only two new names that were destined to outlive their generation. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and "The Virginia Comedians" must be remembered in any survey, however summary, of our native fiction—the one for its immense social influence, the other for being, on the whole, the best novel produced by the South during the *ante-bellum* period.

The ten years that included the four of the Civil War added several important new names to the annals of our fiction, and are certainly not chargeable with sterility, even if their literary activity did not prove commensurate with the expansion of the national consciousness. The two famous novels of Holmes, the promising tales of Winthrop, the respectable fictions

of Bayard Taylor, Dr. Hale's "Man Without a Country," Mr. Aldrich's "Story of a Bad Boy," and "The Innocents Abroad" make up a fairly satisfactory list, while the very last year of the decade was that in which "The Luck of Roaring Camp" took the public by storm, and brought into our fiction a new and resonant note of which the echoes have not yet grown faint.

In all our annals there is probably nothing more significant than the publication of this idyl of the new rough West. It meant, as we can see plainly enough after these thirty years, that our fiction was about to become intensely local and vividly realistic. The fine flower of ideal literary art had blossomed and died with Hawthorne; henceforth our novelists were to busy themselves with the interpretation of life at close range, and were to produce a kaleidoscopic body of fiction each bit of which should sparkle with its own characteristic and independent color. This is the general formula which enables us to include in one category, no matter how varied the scene and how diverse the accent, the work of Mr. Harte, Mr. Howells, and Mr. James, the novels of Mr. Clemens, Mr. Warner, Mr. Cable, and Mr. James Lane Allen, the countless sketches and social studies of Mr. Eggleston, Dr. Mitchell, Mr. Page, Colonel Johnston, and Major Kirkland, and the charming section of our literature that embraces the writings of Miss Murfree, Miss Wilkins, Miss Jewett, Miss French, and Mrs. Foote. Compared with this list, which might be indefinitely extended with minor yet deserving names, the novelists who have eschewed realism and stood for the old romantic conventions are but a small company, and have done little to check the tidal movement of the period. An entire generation of novel-readers has found satisfaction in fiction of the descriptive and analytical type, and the inevitable reaction of taste sets in so slowly that, although the signs have been gathering for several years, the changing of the old order has barely begun. Such is the history of American fiction, from the "Wieland" of 1798 to the "Caleb West," let us say, of exactly a hundred years later.

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### THE PASSING SHOW.

There are two or three features in the dramatic season of 1897-98 in Chicago that are worth noting. In the first place the season opened with a rather remarkable activity in the field of the "American" drama, no less than four principal theatres presenting for opening attractions new productions by American playwrights. The Grand began August 15, with "The Hoosier Doctor," by Mr. Augustin Thomas; Hooley's opened the same week with Mr. Louis N. Parker's "The Mayflower"; Mr. Clay Clement's new play, "A Southern Gentleman," was given at McVicker's August 23, and the Schiller Stock company made their first appearance August 30 with Captain Charles King's "Fort Frayne." Of these four plays, the success was moderate, the one last named meeting with greatest favor. The "American" play has remained more or less in evidence all through the year. Mr. Clay Clement's ever delightful comedy, "The New Dominion," came on at McVicker's in September; and, beginning on the 27th of that month, Mr. William Gillette's "Secret Service" had for six successive weeks — or is said to have had — the most successful run of any play in the history of Hooley's Theatre. This was followed immediately, at the same theatre, by "A Virginia Courtship," the work of Mr. Eugene W. Presbrey, which won popularity in the hands of Mr. William H. Crane, and held the boards three weeks. It was a coincidence that brought Mr. Stuart Robson to McVicker's at the same time (November 7), in Mr. Bronson Howard's old success, "The Henrietta." "At Piney Ridge," a play of the Tennessee mountains, by Mr. David Higgins, came on at the last-named theatre, November 28, and was followed by Mr. Denman Thompson in "The Old Homestead" in December. Mr. Belasco's "Heart of Maryland" was at the Columbia during that month also, with Mrs. Leslie Carter in the leading role. Mr. Nat Goodwin, in "An American Citizen," played at Hooley's for three weeks in January, and then produced the season's novelty in this field, the heroic drama of "Nathan Hale," by Mr. Clyde Fitch. This was the most notable event of the year, although the success of this interesting effort was not unconditioned. Mr. James A. Hearne's always popular "Shore Acres" was on at McVicker's for two weeks in February, while Mr. Thompson's "Sunshine of Paradise Alley" ran coincidentally at Hooley's, and Mr. Joseph Arthur's "Blue Jeans" came to the Schiller, February 20. "Shenandoah," Mr. Bronson Howard's effective melodrama, began a phenomenal run at McVicker's, May 16, which bids fair to outlast the present war with Spain; special features of a spectacular character have been introduced, and Mr. Otis Skinner appears in the cast. "Chattanooga," a new play by Mr. Lincoln J. Carter, was put on at the Columbia, June 25.

So much for "American" drama down-town. A study of the attractions presented at the outlying theatres shows that the patrons of these latter places



of amusement are fond of native color also. Of course in these houses melodrama rules. The titles on their bills run thus: "The Brand of Cain," "Straight from the Heart," "Humanity," "Land of the Living," "Woman in Black," "A Guilty Mother," "Fallen Among Thieves," "The Span of Life," "The Great Train Robbery," "When London Sleeps," "Under the Polar Star," etc. Spectacular realism, particularly as developed in Mr. Lincoln J. Carter's ingenious plays—"The Tornado," "The Fast Mail," "Under the Dome," and others of the same type, "The Operator," "The Electrician," "A Midnight Alarm," "The Police Patrol,"—is exceedingly popular; and of course plays dealing with the United States Navy, such as "The Ensign," "The Man o' War's Man," "The White Squadron," have had some vogue. The titles here presented are typical of the productions which have held the boards at the Academy, the Alhambra, the Bijou, the Lincoln, during the season past. The lover of melodrama is also fond of local settings, and Mr. Carter's sensational achievement entitled "The Heart of Chicago," in which mechanical effects are successfully combined with familiar scenes as an ingenious setting for the customary plot, is a popular play. "Under the Dome" has had a good run; so also have "McFadden's Flats" and "Hogan's Alley." It is natural enough that for this class of plays the Eastern metropolis should be the favorite among American cities in furnishing a locale, and it is amusing to note how these mechanics of art ring the changes on their theme. Thus, early in the season came a play called "The Wolves of New York"; this was followed by "The Streets of New York"; then came "The Pulse of New York"; later, "The Sidewalks of New York"; and lastly, "Alone in Greater New York." On the whole, there is surprisingly little of the morally objectionable presented at any one of these four houses during the year. The managers appear to understand what their patrons want, and supply the demand in quality good of its kind. A study of the material furnished the people who attend these houses is interesting and not discouraging. However lurid these dramas may be, the illumination is commonly that of honest fireworks, and the smell of gunpowder is more wholesome than the fumes of more pretentious plays in another class. That there are four cheap houses in Chicago which have severally supplied melodrama of a legitimate type almost continuously for the year, along with Colonel Hopkins's excellent play-house serving standard attractions of a similar sort, is matter for congratulation among those who look seriously at the problem of public amusement in a great city.

A year ago we noticed the tendency to go to successful works of fiction for dramatic material. Among plays of this class we have had this year in addition to "The Prisoner of Zenda," "Under the Red Robe," and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," an adaptation of Stevenson's "Prince Otto" in a production entitled "Prince Rudolph," along with

another dramatization by Mr. Rose, of Mr. Anthony Hope's new story "The Adventure of the Lady Ursula." The success of this last named play, in the hands of Mr. Sothern and Miss Harned, fairly rivals that of its ever popular predecessor. Two other dramatizations proved very effective upon the stage: "A Lady of Quality," presented by Miss Julia Arthur, and "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," with Mrs. Fiske in the title role. The effort to construct an acting-play out of "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush" was either ludicrous or pitiful, as the reader chooses; it is proper, however, to chronicle the event as one of the novelties of the year.

The ultimate purpose of this annual review of the local dramatic season is to maintain somewhere a convenient record of the Shakespearian performances in Chicago.\* Although the Chicago stage is distinctly provincial, this city is nevertheless very near the centre of national life, and is perhaps as truly indicative of the rise and fall in dramatic values as any city in the country. Two years ago the city was remarkably fortunate in the numerous productions of the Shakespearian dramas and in the general excellence of their artistic merit; there were eighty-eight performances recorded for that year (1895-96). During the season of 1896-97 there were sixty-eight. For the season of 1897-98, just closed, only fifty Shakespearian performances were given. In each of the previous years, thirteen of the plays were brought out; this season there were but ten. "The Comedy of Errors" is the only new production of the year.

Aside from the return to the stage of Madame Modjeska in her old-time repertory, the notable event of the year was the appearance in September, and again in March and April, of Mr. Thomas Keene. Now that the season of this popular and conscientious actor has indeed closed forever, it is pleasant to recall the double visit with its extended list of plays; no less than nine different characters were essayed by Mr. Keene.

Following is the tabulated record of Shakespearian productions for the year.

Plays.	No.	Players.	Dates.
1 As You Like It.	2	Marlowe-Taber.	Nov. 4.
2 Macbeth.	2	Modjeska.	Nov. 20.
3 Julius Caesar.	2	Modjeska-Haworth.	Nov. 15, 19.
4 Othello.	3	Thomas Keene.	Sept. 11, 16.
5 Merchant of Venice.	4	Thomas Keene.	Sept. 9, 12, Mar. 31.
6 Romeo and Juliet.	4	Thomas Keene.	Sept. 5, 15, Apr. 2.
7 Hamlet.	4	Richard Mansfield.	Feb. 15.
8 Comedy of Errors.	8	Marlowe-Taber.	Oct. 30, Nov. 1, 2, 3.
9 Richard III.	9	Thomas Keene.	Sept. 10, 13, Apr. 1.
10 Taming of the Shrew.	12	Joseph Haworth with Modjeska.	Nov. 20.
		Stuart Robson.	Nov. 14-20 (8 times).
		Thomas Keene.	Sept. 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, Mar. 27, 29, Apr. 2.
		Richard Mansfield.	Feb. 17.
		Edith Crane with Sol Smith Russell.	Dec. 5-12 (8 times).
		Ada Rehan.	June 2, 3, 4 (2).
—	50	7	

\* See THE DIAL, June 16, 1896, and July 16, 1897. In the second article on "Shakespeare in Chicago," page 38, there are two misprints. The dates of "Twelfth Night" should be Jan. 7, 8, instead of Jan. 10. "The Tempest" was presented June 1, 2 (twice), 3.

W. E. SIMONDS.



### The New Books.

#### THE LAST SIGNER OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.\*

Among the signatures to the Declaration of Independence, that of Charles Carroll of Carrollton always attracts attention because of its peculiarity. But the individuality of Charles Carroll was marked in many other ways. He was supposed to be the richest man in the rebellious American colonies, George Washington ranking second. The Carrolls in Maryland were so numerous that he added the name of one of his plantations to properly designate himself. Being a Roman Catholic, his accession to the ranks of the rebels rebuked those Protestants who claimed that the Church was hostile to the cause. For the same reason, and because he had been educated in France, he was chosen by the Continental Congress, although not a member of that body, as one of three commissioners to the Canadians in a forlorn hope of getting them into the rebellion against the king. He was one of the signers of the Declaration, but was not present when that document was popularly supposed to have been signed on the fourth of July. He was the last survivor of the signers, and issued a "reaffirmatory declaration" fifty years after he had placed his name to the original.

In view of his long life, and the part he took in the most prominent events of the nation's history, the opinions of Charles Carroll would be invaluable if they had been preserved. Not being a New Englander, he was not trained in the duty of keeping a diary; and, equally unfortunately, he did not even preserve his letters. "When those events [of the Revolution] had gone by, the matters to which they relate ceasing to be interesting to the writers, the letters were destroyed, at least those that were directed to me."

Had he been more provident, or in the habit of reducing his thoughts to writing, he might have thrown much light on disputed and obscure points. He was present as a visitor when the procession of delegates marched from the City Tavern to the Carpenters' Hall to organize the First Continental Congress, but he left not a line concerning it. His timely return to the Maryland legislature, after the Canada expedition, turned the scale for independence, and

he was at once elected to the Continental Congress and signed the engrossed copy of the Declaration. He was a member of the state convention which formed a constitution for Maryland, and a state senator under that constitution, as we know from his name on the records. He refused to serve on what would have been the most important of the many missions to which he was called, viz., as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787; yet one can only conjecture the reason for his refusal. His name alone tells that he was in the Maryland convention where the Constitution was ratified by a rather high-handed proceeding. He was the first United States senator from Maryland, but has added little to our meagre information concerning those days of closed senate doors.

Yet a chronologically arranged statement of Carroll's services, taken from the records and from letters preserved by others, is a veritable and desirable addition to historical literature. So thorough and systematic has been the search already made by biographers, that one can scarcely expect to find much new matter concerning the public life of any Revolutionary father. The private letters and papers written before entering and after leaving public life are likely to be the only reward of the investigator; and here the author of the volumes under consideration has made a praiseworthy contribution.

The letters written by the father of Charles Carroll to his son in European schools show the Roman Catholic in a colony supposed to have been planted for the freedom of that sect, but persecuted by an "established church," deprived of office, obliged to pay double taxes, forbidden to give a religious education to his children, and his life made so intolerable that he contemplates sacrificing his vast landed property for the sake of an asylum in some more liberal land. Indeed, an ancestor had long before changed his motto to "Anywhere with liberty," and fled from an intolerant old world only to have his descendant find an equal intolerance in the new. A religious as well as civil freedom was demanded; and Charles Carroll of Carrollton, hearing the story of colonial persecution from his father, had a grievance which easily persuaded him to embark his immense fortune in a rebellion against a tyrannical state and a tyrannical state church. "To obtain religious as well as civil liberty, I entered zealously into the Revolution; and observing the Christian religion divided into many sects, I founded

\* LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF CHARLES CARROLL OF CARROLLTON. By Kate Mason Rowland. In two volumes. Illustrated. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

the hope that no one would be so predominant as to become the religion of the State."

Equally interesting are the family letters of Carroll after his retirement from public life, commenting on the political changes and the rising complications of the United States with foreign nations. Pleasant glimpses are afforded of the daily life of a gentleman of leisure, a fine classical scholar, and a devout churchman.

The rigid requirement of the modern biography, that it give facts instead of eulogy, has been well observed by the author. Of the equally binding demand that the portraiture be unmarred by a foreign background or distracting accessories, as much cannot be said. The election of a biography as a vehicle for proving a theory is most unfortunate if not unpardonable. To attempt to prove now-a-days that our fathers thought and spoke of the Union in the plural number, is to set up a man of straw for an adversary. It smacks of the hair-splitting dead-language days of ante-bellum controversy. No reasoning man now questions the historical supremacy of the States more than he does the necessary supremacy of the Union. The effort in the case of Carroll is the more labored because he trained with the Union-making Federalists. He acted, as did all the fathers, according to the light they then had. To make them discern the later contest on this question of the supremacy of one of the joint powers, is to endow them with the gift of prophecy,—a height of rhapsody to which the calm reader can scarcely be carried by any biographer.

The author has been unfortunate in trying to follow the confused nomenclature of parties at the time of their birth, instead of adopting the terms now accepted. The attempts to explain these distinctions make the confusion worse, and at times it is difficult to get the intended meaning of the comments. Carroll spoke of the Jefferson faction as Anti-Federalists, although Jefferson denied that he had ever been an Anti-Federalist. When Carroll called them Democrats he was probably thinking of "democrats"—men who paraded "under the worn-out guise of equal liberty and right, and equal division of property, held out to the indolent and needy; but not really intended to be executed." Jefferson repudiated the title Democrat, derived from the excesses of the Democratic clubs. He adopted the word Republican, since he believed in a representative republic; it remained for the rough old "Hickory" Jackson to establish a levelling Democratic party.

Barring a few minor discrepancies, such as

the confusion of the date of Carroll signing the Declaration (Aug. 2 on page 180 of Vol. I., and Aug. 20 on page 343 of Vol. II.), the editing has been carefully and most exhaustively done. No one can lay aside these volumes without an increased respect for this worthy gentleman of Doughrohegan Manor, and of thanks to the editor of his life and correspondence.

EDWIN E. SPARKS.

#### A MODERN ROMANCER.\*

No literary movement could be more distinct than the romantic revival which has come about in the past few years—and this, in its popular and most apparent form, could not be better illustrated than by the work of Mr. Gilbert Parker. It has, indeed, a side rarer than the casual eye can view, and an inspiration too subtle for the casual thought to divine, but, as generally conceived, it is a revival of wonder at the glow and color and splendor of a past time, a revival of interest in the epic scenes and figures of a younger world. The thousand finenesses bred of a modern art and thought are, of course, admitted, but the movement is compared to that which inspired the fiction of the early nineteenth century; and therefore—his romanticism being not unlike that of Scott—this author is made to represent it, as Scott represented the first phase of a greater renaissance.

It would be easy to say, and is possibly true, that the essentials for his type of romance remain unchanged, though the forms in which they are presented be as different as the Old World and the New. The material offered by the history of French Canada—for action, the historic struggle; for setting, the strange forest and ocean; for atmosphere, the keen wind of danger; and for figures, the *seigneur*, soldier, and lady, the priest and *voyageur* and *coursier de bois*—all this seems not unlike the material of the old romancer; for in analysis we find its elements to be the ancient ideal of courage, the simple faith of the sword, the deeds of men to whom life and death were matters of profound simplicity. Yet the difference between the two worlds is, perhaps, what gives to our romance its distinguishing quality—for, when worthily ours, it has something of the unexampled freshness, promise, power, of a marvellous young continent. Here, if we vision it and have strength

\* GILBERT PARKER'S NOVELS. New uniform edition, including "The Seats of the Mighty," "The Trail of the Sword," "The Trespasser," "The Translation of a Savage," and "Mrs. Falchion." New York: D. Appleton & Co.

to use it, lies the advantage of our material.

To a certain extent, Mr. Parker has used it. His characters, it is true, are not men of intense ideals, finding in the wilderness the home of religious liberty — only men eager for adventure, explorers, traders, soldiers, ready to fling away their lives, some under the lilies of France, some under the cross of St. George, to hold the land for the king. Yet — “trading, fighting, revelling” — he makes them suggest the fresh spirit of their time, the daring dream of their new world; and he gives us, too, a conception which, heretofore, the historian alone has given — the conception of our continent as a great, splendid, half-mysterious stage, on which the strong nations of Europe were set to play the drama of conquest. In all this he proves himself American; by these signs his work belongs to us.

It is difficult to speak of Mr. Parker except as concerning himself with the past, for his genius comes to its own in historic epochs and among picturesque figures. Of his modern stories — if they may properly be called such — “The Trespasser” is the only one which approaches in power “The Seats of the Mighty” or “The Trail of the Sword” — and the chief character here is a man from a strange, wild country, having Indian blood in his veins, with a curious magnetism about him, and with certain looks, thoughts, memories, which make him almost the incarnation of a far-off ancestor. Such a subject, though it presents a deeply romantic problem, to which he can not do justice — and which, indeed, calls for the genius of a Hawthorne — is not wholly unsuited to Mr. Parker’s abilities. But when he writes of really modern people, he is in a strange air, seeking strange gods. It is not that he would give these people adventure — we are never too civilized for that; but he can not present modern men and women in adventure, and when he essays to do so is either theatrical or dull. Even the speech of the modern is not his; he has skill in dialogue, but it must be such dialogue as that between Captain Robert Moray and Monsieur Doltaire, eighteenth-century soldiers and gentlemen, — or as that between the sprightly English Jessica and young Iberville, envoy from Count Frontenac to the English governor. In short, he must have, for the proper exercise of his art, material which is innately picturesque and impressive. With such stuff to work upon, he is not theatrical, but dramatic; it lends itself to his style, which, though simple, has a romantic glow and suggestiveness; and his thrilling,

imaginative phrases — “The Seats of the Mighty,” “The Porch of the World,” “As Water unto Wine,” “The Gates of Misfortune” — are entirely suited to it. The very character of the French people, and the vividness of their speech and manner, give him warrant for certain emotional scenes. Iberville, saying to Frontenac, “Once, sir, you made it a choice between the woman and the sword,” and pressing his lips to the sword’s hilt-cross, is not unreal, but simply un-English. Nor is Alixe Duvarney unreal when she tells how, at the palace of the Intendant, to a roomful of banqueters, she played the part of *danseuse*, in order to save her lover. Indeed, in Mr. Parker’s masterpiece, from which this last example is drawn, there are none but the most legitimate effects, and there is a real delicacy of touch, a great dignity of narration.

The time is not so far past when no one cared, or dared, to tell these heroic tales, and when our art was fearful lest, by chance, it should create an impressive character. The change to this romanticism has been very marked, and from the extreme which Mr. Parker represents we must expect some backward swing — to heroisms finer than those of the sword, and to adventures whose end is greater than the conquest of provinces. But there can hardly come a time when we shall not find something thrilling in the wide canvass of early America, and something poetic in the stalwart figures that people it, no matter what their ideals.

MARGARET STEELE ANDERSON.

#### A QUARTETTE OF RECENT BIOGRAPHIES.\*

The reader who finds no entertainment in any of the five hundred closely printed pages of the “Memoirs of a Highland Lady” must be hard to please. He who nods not over some of them would enjoy reading an encyclopædia through in course. These reminiscences, originally written to amuse the writer’s children and

\* **MEMOIRS OF A HIGHLAND LADY.** The Autobiography of Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus, afterwards Mrs. Smith of Baltiboy. 1797-1830. Edited by Lady Strachey. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

**THE SEVENTH EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G., as Social Reformer.** By Edwin Hodder. Chicago: Fleming H. Revell Co.

**FALKLANDS.** By the author of “The Life of Sir Kenelm Digby,” “The Life of a Prigg,” etc. With Illustrations. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

**LED ON! STEP BY STEP.** Scenes from Clerical, Military, Educational, and Plantation Life in the South. 1828-1898. An autobiography. By A. Toomer Porter, D.D. New York: G. P. Putnam’s Sons.



niece, and privately printed in the first instance, are the personal recollections of a very clever woman—despite Dr. Johnson's dictum that none but a blockhead ever wrote except for money.

Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus, afterward Mrs. Henry Smith of Baltiboy, was, the publishers inform us, of the same branch of the Grant family from which our own General Grant claimed descent. Lady Strachey, wife of Sir Richard Strachey and a kinswoman of the Grants, has edited the memoirs. They cover the years from 1797 to 1830, although the writer, who died in 1885 in her eighty-ninth year, brought them down to a much later date. Her father, Sir John Peter Grant, a gentleman of considerable property, an advocate by profession, and in later life appointed to "a judgeship in Bombay," led a restless, roving life, as did his family with him. Hence the variety and interest of the "Memoirs," and the allusions to countless places and persons of note. Life at Oxford in 1810, the installation of Lord Grenville as chancellor of the University, reminiscences of Shelley's student days at this period, a sojourn at Windsor, anecdotes of Lord Jeffrey, a reference to Sir Walter Scott as seen in society, the hair-raising terrors of the Indian jungle, the awful fury of a tropical storm, a visit to Waterloo, and one to St. Helena a few years after Napoleon's death,—these and a thousand other matters lure the reader on from page to page. A single passage, in conclusion, concerning Sir Walter Scott may be welcome:

"I was never in company with Walter Scott; he went out very little, and when he did go he was not agreeable, generally sitting very silent, looking dull and listless, unless an occasional flash lighted up his countenance. In his own house he was another character, especially if he liked his guests. It was odd, but Sir Walter never had the reputation in Edinburgh he had elsewhere—was not the *lion*, I mean."

The life of the Earl of Shaftesbury, by Mr. Edwin Hodder, in three bulky volumes, published in 1886, is so well known that the present outline of the "good" Earl's work as a social reformer calls for but a brief, though a heartily commendatory, notice. The growing interest taken in social questions in recent years, to the increasing exclusion of purely political ones, is in no small measure due to Shaftesbury's lifelong labors to better the condition of the English laboring classes. Receiving no sympathy, and, it would seem, scarcely any love from his parents, the wonder is that his nature, instead of being embittered and hardened in youth, developed such all-embracing

warmth and affection as characterized his manifold activities in the cause of social reform. Refusing high offices, honors, and a handsome income, he labored under a burden of financial embarrassment and in the face of persistent and often malignant opposition, but with unfaltering devotion, first in the House of Commons, and then, upon his father's death in 1851, in the House of Lords, to secure much-needed legislation for the protection of the laboring classes, the poor and the unfortunate. Factory hands, miners, brick-makers, chimney-sweeps, agricultural laborers, lunatics, flower girls, shoe-blacks, and countless others, profited by his exertions. Active personal examination and inspection of mines, factories, asylums, schools, and a hundred other institutions, were added to his official duties in Parliament; taking nothing upon hearsay, he desired a minute personal knowledge of all abuses calling for correction. The magnitude of his labors and the vast number of good causes initiated or encouraged by him almost passes belief; and it was said of him that his speeches in behalf of each of these reforms made his hearers believe him solely and entirely engrossed in promoting that particular reform, as the one great work of his life. "Love, serve," was his ancestral motto; and nobly did he live up to it. The book, handy, clearly written, and inspiring, will be especially welcome to those unable to own the author's more extended life of Lord Shaftesbury.

Again the anonymous author of the "Prig" books and of an entertaining life of Sir Kenelm Digby, already reviewed in these columns, comes to the front with a life of Lucius Cary, second Viscount Falkland, preceded by a briefer account of Henry Cary, the first viscount. He declares his book to be written with a purpose—"to amuse its author"; and, as often happens, in recording what amuses himself, the writer has succeeded in amusing his readers. Elizabeth Tanfield, wife of Henry Cary, claims no small part of the reader's interest. When only ten years old, so keen-witted was she that she saved the life of a poor woman on trial for witchcraft; but the story is too long to give in full, and will not bear cutting. The charm and value of the book lie in its treatment of what might be considered unimportant details; for, as the author says, "the minor details of the past are rarer than the major, and . . . often help to illustrate the period in which they have occurred." The writer deplors his inability to enliven his pages with any anecdotes of Lucius



Cary's and Letice Morison's love-making; and so the element that contributed so much to the picturesqueness of the career of Kenelm Digby, his contemporary, is entirely lacking in the present volume. But the same devotion to scholarly pursuits, so common with noblemen of that period, is found in the lives of both. The second Viscount Falkland was an excellent classical scholar, a poet not without recognition, the author of "A Discourse on the Infallibility of the Church of Rome," and the supposed joint author of Chillingworth's "History of Protestantism." In his learned seclusion at Great Tew, where he was visited by the chief men of letters of his time, he presents a pleasing picture. A common saying of his, "I pity unlearned gentlemen in a rainy day," is worth remembering. In public life his going over from Parliament to King was redeemed by his fidelity to the latter, even unto death. He was killed at the battle of Newbury, after showing himself a brave soldier. While not a great contribution to historical literature, the present volume brings together, in convenient and attractive form, much that has hitherto been scattered and more or less inaccessible. After Matthew Arnold's estimate of Falkland as a "martyr of sweetness and light, of lucidity of mind and largeness of temper," this his latest biographer cannot surely be accused of undue prejudice in favor of his hero.

As a general rule, a voluminous autobiography (not a posthumous one), embellished with two portraits of its author, and containing chapters on "The Work of My Life Recognized" and "Testimonies to My Life's Work," is not exactly the kind of book one feels a burning desire to read and a hungry eagerness to possess. And when it is discovered that a good portion of the book has to do with an academy presided over by the writer and brought more prominently to the reader's attention by means of photo-engravings, the volume begins to be suggestive of an elaborate advertisement, and the longing to explore its pages assumes a still more negative character. Yet Dr. Porter's life has been full of action and incident, and his work, both in the church and in education, has been of great value to his State and to the South generally. But when we encounter such frank instances of self-glorification as this sentence on page 253,—"The class of the refined and educated was to be saved to the South through my efforts,"—we feel that the author is far above the need of any praise from us.

PERCY FAVOR BICKNELL.

#### RECENT BOOKS OF TRAVEL.\*

Quite the most notable recent book on Asian travel is "From Tonkin to India," by Prince D'Orléans. This elaborate work describes a journey made, in company with two fellow countrymen, from Tonkin to India, by way of lower Yunnan and Thibet and Upper Assam, largely through little-known country, and to some extent through country previously unvisited by Europeans. The aim was to find "the shortest route from China to India," and to explore the Chinese Mekong and the sources of the Irawadi, and in all this he was successful. Much of the travelling was over very rough ground, and on the borders of Assam the party reached what the author called "the acme of cumulative obstruction."

"Up to the present we had overcome many a spell of choice obstacles. They had not exhausted the vagaries of nature. Indeed, they might be looked upon rather as the occasional rockets of the entertainment, and this as the *feu d'artifices*. Jagged points, slippery surface, crumbling brinks, creepers that tripped, worm-eaten trunks up which to swarm, almost vertical ladders to climb formed of wooden pickets driven in the face of overhanging bluffs, often hauled by the sheer strength of a couple of men and liana drag-ropes over boulders. We struggled on because we had to, and sat down abruptly on the other side, to marvel how the deuce we got there. Let anyone who wants good training for biceps or calf come here. A mile or two in a day was sometimes all we could do, and at this rate we began to despair of seeing India in 1896."

The author's accounts of his struggles through this mountainous region and his descent into the plains of Assam are much the most interesting parts of the book. The larger part is a rather dry summary, too sketchy, desultory, and matter-of-fact to be of the highest interest. The writer is too lacking in graphic vigor, humor, and spirit of adventure for its own sake, to give his experiences literary charm. He alludes in high terms of praise to Mr. Rockhill, the American explorer, whose name, however, he

\* FROM TONKIN TO INDIA. By Prince Henri D'Orléans. Translated by Hamley Bent, M.A. Illustrated. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

THROUGH FINLAND IN CARTS. By Mrs. Alec Tweedie. Illustrated. New York: The Macmillan Co.

EASTERN JOURNEYS. By Charles A. Dana. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

WITH THE CONQUERING TURK. By G. W. Stevens. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA. By Henry M. Stanley, M.P., D.C.L. Illustrated. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

MARCHING WITH GOMEZ. By Grover Flint. Illustrated. Boston: Lamson, Wolfe & Co.

ALASKA. By Hon. A. P. Swineford. Illustrated. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.

ACROSS THE SUB-ARCTICS OF CANADA. By J. W. Tyrrell. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

THE ISLES AND SHRINES OF GREECE. By Samuel J. Bartows. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

BROWN MEN AND WOMEN. By Edward Reeves. New York: The Macmillan Co.

THROUGH THE GOLD FIELDS OF ALASKA TO BERING STRAITS. By Harry de Windt, F.R.G.S. Illustrated. New York: Harper & Brothers.

spells "Rochill." He speaks bitterly of English aggression, but cannot conceal his admiration of English administration. The good maps, the artistic illustrations, and the scientific appendices add much to the value of this work.

"Through Finland in Carts," by Mrs. Alec Tweedie, is an entertaining account of quite an extended trip along the eastern shore of the Baltic, with special facilities for studying the home-life of the people. The title, however, is somewhat of a misnomer, as the journey was mostly made by boats. Mrs. Tweedie saw much of the life of the upper classes, of the peasantry, and of the clergy. She thus describes a country church service:

"The church held nearly 4000 people, and every man and woman present was a peasant. The building was crowded to excess, the sexes being divided by the centre aisle. Nearly every one wore black, that being considered the proper wear for Sundays, weddings, etc., especially for the married women, who also wore black silk handkerchiefs over their heads. Each woman carried a large white handkerchief in her hand, upon which she leaned her head while praying. Subsequently we found that all the females rolled their prayer-books up in these cloths while carrying them home. Service had begun at ten, so that three hours of it was over when we arrived, and the Communion, which lasted another hour and a half, was about to begin. The place was packed, the day very hot, and the peasant atmosphere a little oppressive. We were much struck by the children; mere babies actually being nursed by their mothers, while elder urchins walked in and out of the building—going sometimes to have a game with various little friends amidst the graves outside, plaiting daisy-chains, or telling fortunes by large ox-eyed daisies. The men walked out also, and enjoyed a pipe or gossip with a neighbor, and there was that general air of freedom which prevails in a Roman Catholic Church during divine service; nevertheless, the intense sympathy, the devotion, the general inclination to moan and weep, reminded us of the Highland Kirk. But it was very surprising to hear the pastor tell his congregation that at a certain day he would be at an appointed place to receive grain, butter, potatoes, calves, etc. The clergymen are paid in kind, which to them is a very suitable arrangement, as they are generally peasants' sons and well able to attend to their own glebes; but it did sound funny to hear a clergyman, standing in the pulpit, talk of butter and eggs. When the congregation stood up we naturally stood up with them. The Finlanders are short; and for two women five feet six or seven high, with hats on the tops of their heads, suddenly to rise, amazed a congregation the female members of which were seldom taller than five feet one or two, and wore nothing on their heads but a flat handkerchief. We felt like giraffes towering over the rest of the people, and gradually grew more and more ashamed of our height and hats, simple though the latter were. How we longed to be short and have our heads covered with black silk handkerchiefs like the rest of the folk around, so as to be unnoticeable in their midst."

Everywhere Mrs. Tweedie enjoys her travel experiences and slight adventures with a rare zest, which she is very successful in communicating to her readers. While this work cannot be accounted a finished literary performance, nor a very notable

and thorough account of the Finnish land and people, it is yet an extremely bright, pleasant, merry book, a thoroughly popular travel book of the best sort. The volume is handsomely got up, and is provided with a good map and interesting illustrations.

The late Charles A. Dana's volume of "Eastern Journeys" is a very slight collection of notes descriptive of a flying trip through Russia, Trans-Caucasia, and Palestine. These notes are too brief and cursory to be of much importance, though their very recent date may give them some value for certain purposes, as for intending tourists. The booklet is well written, and the notices of Tiflis and the Darial Pass, which places are somewhat out of the beaten route, are of considerable interest.

Mr. G. W. Steevens, a correspondent of a London paper, gives us, in the book entitled "With the Conquering Turk," a spirited and interesting account of the recent Turko-Greek affair. Mr. Steevens started from Salonica, where, strange to say, he found the majority of inhabitants Jews, and "the reigning speech old Spanish." He accompanied the Turkish forces throughout the brief campaign, which he characterizes as not "really war" but a political demonstration. "It began as the servant of diplomacy, instead of its master, as war should be; so it went on. Everybody had his eye on the Concert of Europe and the terms of peace." Mr. Steevens greatly admires the fighting qualities of the Turk. As evidence of this we quote his vigorous description of the storming of Vasilí by the Turks.

"They heard the bullets cracking past like whips, and the shells screaming like mad horses; they saw their comrades fling wild arms abroad and lurch forward onto their faces. Yet these indomitable men never once moved out of their steady slouch. 'Allah! Allah! Allah!' they cried, with a fierce but a very self-contained enthusiasm, as they tramped first through deep corn and then out over the bare plough. 'Allah! Allah! Allah!' the sound swelling and mingling to a hoarse roar as they lined out into open order and began firing quickly but not hurriedly. 'Allah! Allah! Allah!' as the jets of fire ran more clearly round the village, and men went down beside them, and the bullets kicked up little dust-devils between their legs. And Allah saw them through. The Greeks bolted. I doubt if they lost a man, for the Turks looked to shoot very high. But they saw their masters coming, and they went to kennel. They could not stand there and face those slipshod heroes shambling composedly forward past death to victory."

While Mr. Steevens's style is in general good and vivid, it sometimes is marred by flippancy, and sometimes the constant *staccato* effect becomes wearisome, especially where he is tempted, as the correspondent must be, to merely "make copy." But on the whole the work is to be commended as a clear, careful, and readable account; and the excellent maps add much to its usefulness.

Mr. Henry M. Stanley's latest contribution to African subjects, entitled "Through South Africa," consists of brief and cursory letters descriptive of a trip to Bulawayo on the opening of the railway last fall, and includes also some material relating to a

visit to the Transvaal. Mr. Stanley thinks that Bulawayo is destined to become the Chicago of South Africa; and as to the situation in the Transvaal he is even abusive of Krüger and his policy. This little book is certainly acute and suggestive, and though it cannot be called dispassionate, it will serve as an introduction to the present *status* of South Africa for those who have not time or inclination for larger works.

The present complication with Cuba will draw attention to such books as "Marching with Gomez," by Mr. Grover Flint. This book, though made up of the author's letters to a New York paper, is decidedly superior in matter and form to the usual run of this kind of publication. It is a plain direct narrative, unsensational, and apparently truthful and impartial. As throwing some light on the state of the Cuban insurgents and on the nature of Spanish rule, it is of considerable value. Mr. Flint finds that the fighting Cubans are disdainful of autonomy and of annexation, but wholly bent on absolute independence. The historical introduction to this book, by Mr. John Fiske, is of decided value, and the sketches and maps are of interest.

The book on Alaska, by the Hon. A. P. Swineford, is the result of personal observation in all parts of that vast territory. It is much better than the usual run of books on the subject, and furnishes a useful and apparently trustworthy compend. The Klondike region is included in the survey. The description of the Indians of Alaska, though summary, is of value. The book has a good map and fair illustrations.

Mr. J. W. Tyrrell's "Across the Sub-Arctics of Canada" is a very modest and simple narrative of an exploring trip made in 1893 through the Barren Lands adjacent to Hudson Bay. The expedition was sent out by the Canadian Government, to discover a water route from Black Lake, which is just above Lake Athabasca, to Baker Lake at the head of Chesterfield Inlet, and Mr. Tyrrell accomplished this by a canoe journey, interrupted by frequent portages, along river and lake for 810 miles through an unknown country. He returned late in the autumn, by a very perilous coasting trip along Hudson Bay to Fort Churchill. Mr. Tyrrell came in contact with both Indians and Eskimos. To the Eskimos he devotes two chapters, which, though contributing little that is new, are yet fresh with personal observation. He describes the Mackenzie River Eskimos as "wearing stones in the cheeks, upon each side of the mouth." They "have the reputation of being a bad lot, and it is said when they are heard to rattle their cheek stones against their teeth it is time to be on the lookout. The stones are cut in the shape of large shirt studs, and are let through the cheeks by cutting holes for them." The book is suitably illustrated from photographs, and it has a sketch-map of the author's route.

In "The Isles and Shrines of Greece" Mr. S. J. Barrows discourses very pleasantly and enthusias-

tically of Greece old and new. He includes in his survey the most famous and beautiful of the Isles and Shrines in the Ionian Islands, the Peloponnese, Phocis, Thessaly, Attica, the Ægean Islands, and Troy. Some of his pilgrimages were made under the leadership of the renowned Dörpfeld, who lectured to his students in the midst of the very ruins he described. A suggestive remark is this: "In modern times we build churches where we think people will resort to them; in primitive days of nature-worship the Greeks built their altars where they thought the gods loved to come." Mr. Barrows's brief, genial, unpedantic sketches may well serve as a popular introduction to classical Greek archaeology in the light of the most recent investigations. Christian archaeology is touched upon, and the Greek life of to-day is clearly described. The photographic illustrations are very good, but there is no map.

"Brown Men and Women," by Mr. Edward Reeves, is an account, rather glib and desultory, of a hasting traveller to the usual ports in the South Seas. The Friendly Islands, Samoa, the Fiji Group, the Cook Group, and the Society Islands are described in a light and lively vein; but we regret to say that the temper shown is often unscientific and the tone vulgar. At the most, the author gets but glimpses of Island life; yet he writes in a most assertive and even pugnacious manner, as witness particularly his savage denunciation of the missionaries. And yet, as a recent sketch of the *status* of Polynesia, the book has considerable value and interest. It has no general map of the route, but is provided with numerous and striking illustrations.

Much the best of recent books on Alaska that we have met with is "Through the Gold-Fields of Alaska to Bering Straits," by Mr. Harry De Windt. Mr. De Windt, who is evidently a professional traveller, attempted a journey from New York to Paris by land; but he succeeded only in reaching Fort St. Michaels, on the Yukon, where he learned that Bering Straits were not practicable for a crossing on the ice. So he had recourse to the U. S. Steamer "Bear," which landed him at Oumwaidjik, on the Siberian side of the Straits. Here he was in virtual captivity among the Tchukchi savages for some months, vainly endeavoring to get forwarded to Anadyrsk. Matters finally began to look serious; but he was at length rescued by a passing whaler. Mr. De Windt's story of his Tchukchi experiences is extremely interesting, though we suspect that most readers will be chiefly attracted by the first part of the book, wherein is a vivid account of the Klondike region, through which the author passed, by way of the Chilkoot pass, not long before the great gold discoveries. Alaska he regards as "one of the few countries of the world where, so far as travelling facilities are concerned, money goes for nothing. Here all grades are equal, from the government official to the San Francisco 'tough.'" The journey to Dawson City he describes as "passed under circumstances compared to which the roughest work



in other wild lands is mere child's play." At one place "the trail lies through a dense, swampy forest, and half the distance is barely covered when we are literally driven back by clouds of mosquitoes. The air is black with the pests, which attack us with almost alarming ferocity. For the first time I no longer doubt Cooper's assertion that the strongest men sometimes break down and give way to tears under their sufferings." Mr. De Windt greatly admires the Alaskan scenery, which resembles Switzerland. The account of the Klondike country is brought down to date. We can recommend this book as a very capable and entertaining book of travels. It is well furnished with illustrations and with a map of the route, and the paper and the presswork are a delight to the eye.

HIRAM M. STANLEY.

#### RECENT FICTION.\*

"My story will take you into times and spaces alike rude and uncivil. Blood will be spilt, virgins suffer distresses; the horn will sound through woodland glades; dogs, wolves, deer, and men, Beauty and the Beasts, will tumble each other, seeking life or death with their proper tools. There should be mad work, not devoid of entertainment. . . . I hope you will not ask me what it all means, or what the moral of it is. I rank myself with the historian in this business of tale-telling, and consider that my sole affair is to hunt the argument dispassionately." Thus are we introduced to the tale of "The Forest Lovers," by Mr. Maurice Hewlett, whose "Earthwork out of Tuscany" some time ago prepared a receptive audience for whatever he might choose to write. It is difficult to characterize this new book,

\*THE FOREST LOVERS. A Romance. By Maurice Hewlett. New York: The Macmillan Co.

A BRIDE OF JAPAN. By Carlton Dawe. Chicago: Herbert S. Stone & Co.

HELBECK OF BANNISDALE. By Mrs. Humphry Ward. Two volumes. New York: The Macmillan Co.

THE MAKING OF A PRIG. By Evelyn Sharp. New York: John Lane.

SEÑORITA MONTENAR. By Archer P. Crouch. New York: Harper & Brothers.

THE LONDONERS. By Robert Hichens. Chicago: Herbert S. Stone & Co.

THE STORY OF A PLAY. A Novel. By W. D. Howells. New York: Harper & Brothers.

PEARCE AMERSON'S WILL. By Richard Malcolm Johnston. Chicago: Way & Williams.

A MAN AT ARMS. By Clinton Scollard. Boston: Lamson, Wolfe, & Co.

THE KING'S HENCHMAN. A Chronicle of the Sixteenth Century. By William Henry Johnson. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

THE CONTINENTAL DRAGOON. By Robert Neilson Stephens. Boston: L. C. Page & Co.

AT THE SIGN OF THE SILVER CRESCENT. By Helen Choate Prince. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY. By Alphonse Daudet. Translated by Levin Carnac. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

THE DISASTER. By Paul and Victor Marguerite. Translated by Frederic Lees. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

so far does it depart from the ordinary conventions of romance, so filled is it with the sense of a close communion with nature, and so radiant with sheer imaginative beauty. It is one of those rare productions that compel immediate acceptance as literature in the classical meaning of the term, and silence all critical questionings by the supreme excellence of the achievement which they embody. Some notion of what it is may perhaps be conveyed by asking the reader to think of a romance by William Morris blended with the high spirits of a Zenda tale. It has the grace of the one and the action of the other, and its local habitation is as far to seek as in either of these illustrative cases. Whether we are to think of France or England when absorbed in its pages matters but little, and our fancy is left free to range through the centuries of mediævalism if we even care to wonder into what particular period of the world's chronicle we are transported. The book is a joy to read and to remember, a source of clean and pure delight to the spiritual sense, a triumph of romance reduced to the essentials, and interpreted with a mastery of expression that is well-nigh beyond praise.

Both fiction and actual life have afforded numerous instances of love affairs between Englishmen and Japanese maidens, and the novelists, at any rate, have usually given an ideal coloring to the relation, and sought in the comparison to put our Western loves to shame. It is evidently for the purpose of showing the other side of the shield that Mr. Carlton Dawe has written his story of "A Bride of Japan," and, although we think he has exaggerated the consequences of this particular form of mixed marriage, it is undeniable that he has given a powerful portrayal of the situation from his own point of view. The book is unpleasant, yet one that we would not have missed reading.

Mrs. Humphry Ward's new novel, "Helbeck of Bannisdale," comes to our table unheralded by the puff preliminary or other cheap devices for creating an anticipatory prejudice in its favor, and the fact that it has gone hastily through the press is evidenced by a proof-reading so careless that we find it difficult to recognize the workmanship of a publishing house whose name usually stands for the most fastidious accuracy in the mechanical details of book-making. Perhaps the first thing to say about the book considered as literature is to record the fact that it harks back to Mrs. Ward's "Robert Elsmere" period, and marks the abandonment for the time being of her concern in the social problems of the time. The problem here presented is the religious one, and, as before, the religious problem in its inmost spiritual essence, while the conflict in the present case is sharper than that to which Robert Elsmere succumbed, and the issue more tragic. In the earlier work, we were made to contemplate the struggle of a strong intellectual nature with the blind forces of religious dogmatism, and the outcome left the hero morally triumphant although physically overthrown. In the present



instance the antagonism is between a woman bred in the atmosphere of rationalism, strong indeed in will, but without the intellectual equipment she so sorely needs, and the most rigid and exacting form of Catholic belief. The conflict proves too unequal for the heroine, and she finds refuge only in self-destruction. That two strenuous natures, differing radically in their religious views, cannot find even in the strongest love for one another the bond necessary for happiness seems to be Mrs. Ward's thesis; and out of this fundamental intellectual incompatibility her tragedy springs. This difficulty has formed the basis of many a novel before "Helbeck of Banisdale," and as usually presented we have frequently had occasion to describe the resulting estrangement as morbid if not absolutely immoral. We hesitate to use such terms to characterize the solution here offered, for, however untypical, we feel that Mrs. Ward has created for us two human beings whose conduct, under the given circumstances, was nothing less than inevitable. "Love is enough" is a formula that will not fit with Helbeck and Laura; but we are constrained to say, while admitting the full importance of the religious temperament in sweetening life and strengthening character, that it is fortunate there are few fanatics of Helbeck's sort, and few women with Laura's unbalanced nature. Yet Helbeck commands our admiration, much as Dr. Ibsen's Brand demands it; and the fact that the moral triumph remains with him rather than with her is a conspicuous illustration of the fairness with which Mrs. Ward has handled a controversial matter which clearly enlists her sympathies upon the other side. As far as development of the action goes, many of her pages might be spared, for she has not been able to keep the philosophical essayist out of her book. But these superfluous pages are so ripened in thought and so chastened in sympathy that from another point of view we would not willingly miss them. That this novel overshadows all but the very best of contemporary fiction goes without saying.

"The Making of a Prig" is a charming story compounded of strictly familiar ingredients. A young man is laid up by accident in a country town, and comes under the ministrations of a young girl, too innocent to know that all the while she is reading and talking with him she is also falling in love. He, on the other hand, is interested and amused by her fresh and emotional nature, and anticipates nothing serious. Afterwards, she goes to London in search of employment, impelled not by necessity but by a quixotic impulse to do something for herself, and has all the harrowing experiences of which we have so often read. There is also a country youth, affectionate and slangy, who loves her in a dumb sort of way, but clearly has no chance after the brilliant stranger has appeared upon the scene. The latter discovers, in the end, that the feeling of camaraderie has given place to something deeper, and the story closes happily, after the proper series of prettily pathetic passages. The title is hardly

justified, for the heroine is nowise priggish in any ordinary sense, but a very sweet girl, swayed by natural impulse, and womanly in the best meaning of the term.

"Señorita Montemar" should prove a popular book just now. It is about Spaniards and warships and fighting, and other subjects that engage the mind of the excited public. The fact that it relates to the Chilean war of independence does not make any real difference, for Chileans and Cubans are much the same thing, and American readers dearly love to take a whack at Spanish tyranny anywhere. It is, moreover, an admirable story of its sort, brim full of perilous adventure, and placed amid scenes sufficiently novel to give it an added zest. The days of the great O'Higgins live for us again in these pages, and the heart warms to the new world patriotism of his followers. We commend Mr. Crouch's story to amateurs of romantic adventure.

Mr. Robert Hichens, after essaying with doubtful success one or two forms of serious fiction, has again opened the vein of social satire which won him his reputation with "The Green Carnation," and produced one of the most entertaining books that we have read for many a day. "The Londoners" has all of the epigrammatic wit that made Mr. Hichens seem so preternaturally clever in his first book, and it has, in addition, enough of a plot to stimulate the interest, and keep the reader from being merely dazed by the incessant heat-lightning of the author's satirical fancy. The treatment is so broadly farcical that the book cannot be called a novel in any serious sense, but it is rarely amusing for all that, and makes the best of reading for an idle summer day.

"The Story of a Play" is a pleasing addition to the list of the charming trivialities to which Mr. Howells has chiefly devoted himself of late years. It now seems a confirmed habit with him to select for treatment some closely circumscribed phase of experience, to make it the subject of the most searching and minute observation, and to develop its utmost possibilities. This intensive method of literary cultivation is the method best calculated to yield artistic results; and, if the recent work of Mr. Howells does sometimes suggest the carving of cherry-stones, the carving is very neatly done. Few subjects are more hackneyed than that of the budding man of letters seeking to make his way in an unappreciative world, and it requires some daring to bring it once more into service. In the present case, the aspirant for fame pins his fortunes to play-writing, which gives the author an opportunity to introduce the chief types of player-folk into his pages, and to illuminate their ways with many a flash of gentle humor. By making the wife of the hero collaborate in the work of writing the play, Mr. Howells is enabled to add to his collection another of those examples of femininity that usually prove so exasperating to the sex that they assume to represent. It is all very well by way of semi-

satirical pastime, but women are sometimes rational beings, the score or more of Mr. Howells's novels to the contrary notwithstanding.

A book by Colonel Richard Malcolm Johnston is always welcome, even if it be, as in the case of "Pearce Amerson's Will," only the republication of a novelette that has already done duty in the pages of a monthly magazine. While not equal to the author's strongest work—"Widow Guthrie," for example,—the present story is charmingly written, of geniality all compact, and an admirable picture of manners in Georgia half a century ago. In this field Colonel Johnston is without a rival; there is no other writer living who has his freshness of recollection combined with his instinct for the effective form of literary expression, and his books are at the same time acceptable works of fiction and important historical documents.

We have often wondered why, in the present revival of historical romance, the age of the Italian despots should not have been made to furnish forth a greater proportion of our current literature. The Elizabethan dramatists well knew the value of this material, but the Victorian novelists have made slight use of it. To be sure, we had the other day a romance dealing with the conspiracy of Fieschi and the despotism of the Doria, and Mr. Clinton Scollard now gives us a romance of Gian Galeazzo and the conquest of Milan, but there is room for many more workers in this attractive field. Mr. Scollard's book is neither good nor bad. It follows a familiar plan, is correctly elaborated in accordance with the literary tradition which it affects, displays some knowledge of the period concerned, and is written in a careful and fluent style.

Few historical figures so lend themselves to the purposes of romance as does that of Henry of Navarre, and we are not surprised to find still another novelist attracted by that theme. In "The King's Henchman," Mr. William Henry Johnson tells a tale of the conventional pattern, neither better nor worse than fifty others that have recently been told, dealing with subtle intrigues and fierce battles, the woes of a persecuted damsel and the bravery of her chosen champion. For once, however, the hero does not get his reward, and is left disconsolate in the end—a fact which will hardly recommend the romance to the sort of audience for which all such romances are written.

We find it difficult to rediscover in "The Continental Dragoon" the author of "An Enemy to the King." In that spirited piece of fiction we had swift dramatic action and a reasonable degree of romantic probability. In the new novel, on the other hand, we have a situation so improbable that even the most hardened reader of this sort of book remains in a constant state of revolt, while the narrative is so clogged in its action by the historical material introduced that the reader loses patience completely. It takes some fifty pages of undigested Colonial history to get the story fairly started, and the feeling of exasperation caused by this unhappy

overture is not abated when the preposterous nature of the plot begins to be unfolded. There are a few pages of brilliant writing in the book, but they do not make up for its general shapelessness.

"At the Sign of the Silver Crescent," by Mrs. Helen Choate Prince, is the third novel by this attractive and thoughtful writer. Like its two predecessors, it deals with the subject that Mrs. Prince seems to have made her own—French life as it exists in the provinces rather than in the capital. While the characterization is superficial, and the criticism of life somewhat narrowed, rather by the obvious limitations of the writer than by the exigencies of her theme, there is a well-managed plot, and the interest is maintained at a moderate tension throughout the work. The book is pleasing rather than strong, better fitted for entertainment than for illumination.

"Soutien de Famille," the novel completed for publication by Alphonse Daudet not long before his death, is now published in an English translation, and bears for a title "The Head of the Family." The translation is by Mr. Levin Carnac, and is far from being a good one. The charm of the author's style has almost wholly evaporated during the process, and there are even occasional lapses from ordinary correct English. The novel, which is here prefaced by Professor Cohn's sketch of Daudet which first appeared in "The Bookman," will make no perceptible addition to the author's reputation. Being by Daudet, it is, of course, an admirable piece of work, but it does not retain the freshness of the earlier masterpieces, nor is it really worthy of Daudet from the standpoints of construction and characterization. The hero is a worthless fellow, consumed by vanity, and falling without effort to resist into a vicious life. It is only ironically that he is "soutien de famille," and the real burden of sustaining his widowed mother is left to the socially unattractive younger son, who bravely accepts the responsibility, and is too stupid to understand the despicable character of his brilliant elder brother. The final act of the hero, who enlists because nothing else is left him to do, is a mere piece of sentimental bravado, and does nothing to rehabilitate his character in the mind of any intelligent reader, although we rather suspect that the author intended the act to have some such effect. The delicious inconsequence of the hero's closing injunction, to the effect that his son be not allowed to study Latin, is but one instance out of many which go to show how much of its old-time cunning was lost by the hand of the author during the years of suffering that brought his life to its term.

"The Disaster," by MM. Paul and Victor Marguerite, is an act of piety rather than a work of art, a day-by-day chronicle of the war between France and Prussia rather than a piece of historical fiction. It has even less of artistic quality than M. Zola's "La Débâcle," and that work is defective enough in construction. But "The Disaster" is so sincere a book, and succeeds in so enforcing both the hor-

rors of war in the abstract and the lesson of the degradation wrought in France by twenty years of a corrupt Empire, that it becomes impressive by sheer accumulation of detail and weight of moral earnestness. It deals chiefly, as the translator tells us in his well-written introduction, with the operations of the army of the Rhine, "the long agony of the finest troops in the French army, day after day duped until the fatal hour of the capitulation of Metz by Bazaine." It is, moreover, the story of the conflict from the officer's point of view, the story of gradual disillusionment, of growing despair, and of the birth of a new resolve in the younger generation, the resolve to create a new and better France out of the wreck of the old.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

#### BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

*The Great Charles  
of French history.*

In a monograph on Charles the Great in the "Foreign Statesmen" series (Macmillan), Mr. Thomas Hodgkin well sustains his reputation as an accurate and entertaining writer of history. His excellent choice of language, together with a comprehensive historical knowledge which enables him to impress his facts by means of historical comparisons and contrasts, makes the book delightful and profitable reading. These historical parallels, which the author finds so readily, serve not only to heighten the interest but to fortify the memory and stimulate the ambition for further reading. For example, commenting upon the similarity of the policy of Clovis with that of Napoleon, Mr. Hodgkin says: "Both men emphatically fought 'for their own hands'; both were more intent on massing great countries under their sway than on really assimilating the possessions which they had already acquired; both in different ways made, or tried to make, the Catholic Church an instrument of their ambition; and both seemed to have looked upon Europe, or so much of it as they could acquire, as a big estate to be divided among their children or relations." What could more clearly picture the personal, non-national character of the policy of Clovis, or more certainly impress the memory? While the life and government of Charles the Great are described with simplicity and accuracy, the most valuable chapters in the book are devoted to the later Merovingians, and to the Mayors of the Palace. The position in the government held by these mayors, whether in Neustria or Austrasia, their powers, their limitations, and the conditions which led to a decrease of their control in the one state and an increase in the other, are matters which few historians have been able to state clearly. Mr. Hodgkin, briefly, but with ample reference to and quotations from early authorities, has made plain much that has heretofore been only indefinitely stated. Although the title of the book is Charles the Great, the more familiar compound, Charle-

magne, is used, in spite of the teaching of the late Professor Freeman, who first protested against this form of the name. The author's reason for sometimes Gallicizing the title of the great Teutonic hero is that the name commonly used "by its union of the Teutonic Karl with the Latin Magnus not inaptly symbolizes the blending of the German and Roman elements in the Frankish Empire."

*A French volunteer  
in two revolutions.*

Only the trite remark that "it reads like a romance" can properly describe the autobiography of the Chevalier de Pontgibaud, a French volunteer of the American War of Independence (Appleton). After numerous adventures, including an escape from prison in his native France, the author arrived a penniless adventurer in America and became a protégé of the chivalric Marquis de la Fayette at "Valley Forge." He followed the fortunes of the Revolutionary War, was present when André was captured, and finally saw Rochambeau wave the proffered sword of Cornwallis toward General Washington. He returned to France in time to be driven out in the French Revolution, and came back to America to join the colony of *émigrés* who embraced, in their new stations, farmers, merchants, market women, and an elephant exhibitor. The changed fortunes of the royalists after the fall of Napoleon restored the Chevalier to a quiet life in France, and gave opportunity of writing his reminiscences. The easy style in which these are composed gives pleasant little glimpses of those personalities which are commonly cloaked by the glamor of heroes. At one time, being with Lafayette in a vessel off the coast of New Foundland and threatened with death in a violent storm, he relates that the young Marquis, who was very seasick in addition to his other woes, began to philosophize "on the emptiness of glory and fame. 'Diable! I have done well, certainly. At my time of life — barely twenty years of age, — with my name, rank, and fortune, and after having married Mlle. de Noailles, to leave everything and serve as a breakfast for codfish!'" But a kind fate restored him to the arms of the surprised Madame de la Fayette, who was brought by Queen Marie Antoinette in her carriage to meet him.

*Col. Higginson's  
"Cheerful  
Yesterdays."*

Of the principal movements in life and letters in the last three-quarters of this century, perhaps no man now living can say more truthfully than Mr. Thomas Wentworth Higginson, "All of which I saw, and part of which I was." Moreover, few are masters of such a happy art in narration; consequently, Mr. Higginson's "Cheerful Yesterdays" (Houghton) would be hard to surpass as a book of reminiscences. Without falling into undue discursiveness on personal matters, the author contrives to throw that light upon his period and locality which it is the special merit of books of this class to bestow. Life at Harvard College, when Commencement Day was such an event that Boston banks were closed and



Boston gentlemen repaired to Cambridge to keep open house while the ceremonies lasted; American literature coming to its birth through the cohesion of those six leaders whom we still count as our greatest, yet who were so unlike in many ways that we were spared any clique or a literary yoke of any kind; the unquiet epoch of the "Transcendentalists,"—these and other things are portrayed with a picturesqueness all the author's own, and in a way to emphasize the great changes of our time. But our author has been no less closely in touch with affairs than with literature. The born reformer is shown in his eager part in the fugitive slave epoch, in the Kansas struggles, in the John Brown episode, in the Civil War as colonel of the first colored regiment, in every recent progressive movement in the halls of legislation in his own State. Naturally, one who has seen the accomplishment of so many good things is optimistic in regard to the future; and the full text of the Wordsworth lines which furnish the title are entirely applicable:

"A man he seems of cheerful yesterdays,  
And confident to-morrow."

*Songs and ballads  
for the hour.*

It would hardly be fair to the authors of "Under the Stars, and Other Songs of the Sea" (Way & Williams) to delay mention of their little book until it shall be convenient to survey the poetical product of three months or more in our usual way. These verses are intended for immediate consumption, being songs and ballads of the American navy, written to meet a pressing need for war poetry; and Messrs. Wallace Rice and Barrett Eastman, who have thus obligingly assumed upon short notice the difficult role of American Campbells, have every right to expect a responsive welcome for their efforts. The two collaborators in this production have written eight poems apiece, most of them bearing the marks of haste, yet spirited, breezy, and not unsatisfying withal. "The First American Sailors," by Mr. Rice, is a really fine ballad, and is likely to be remembered. We also like Mr. Barrett's "Brothers of One Blood," both for its form and its sentiment. These seem to us the best of the poems, although there are several others that we have read with a considerable degree of pleasure.

*The suppression  
of seriousness  
among women.*

The suppression of seriousness among women—particularly among college-women and club-women—is the motive of a little volume by Mrs. Helen Watterson Moody, entitled "The Unquiet Sex" (Scribner). The author adopts, perhaps as suitable to this purpose, a popular manner of airiness and inconsequence; she makes, here and there, a radical mistake,—as in asserting that the typical woman-collegian "goes in for reforms"; and club-women may claim, with a show of reason, that her view of their clubs is not a broad view. Nevertheless, she speaks some certain truths,—for example, that the modern woman is still "on nervous tiptoe"; that club-work is

apt to be taken with too much gravity; and that the college-girl is conscious of her type, but will cease to be when her grandmother is known as a bachelor of arts. There are also some sensible things in the little book which are not of the nature of accusations. Such is the contention that "no club can do more than receive the result of individual scholarship and culture, or offer more than mere stimulation"; and such, too, is the statement that, in any field of work, an emphasis on the fact that women are new-comers must tend to the lowering of wages. The preface gives fair warning that the author will speak on but one side of the subject, and it is probably for this reason that nothing is said of the club-member who takes her club easily, or of the college-girl who is so fearful of being considered "serious" that she goes to unnecessary lengths of flippancy. The attitude of the book is quite clearly indicated by the announcement that it is "for men, women, and the Unquiet Sex." By some strange lapse into seriousness, it has marginal notes.

*Sketches of  
boyhood life.*

One does not read far in Mr. Laurence Hutton's "A Boy I Knew, and Four Dogs" (Harper) before discovering that the "Boy" in evidence was none other than the author himself. The sketches originally appeared in "St. Nicholas," and may be read with pleasure by old and young. Mr. Hutton seems to have been in the main a boy of the usual type, what is approvingly called a "regular boy," and to have had the "regular boy's" stock experiences,—such, for instance, as falling in love with a girl much older than himself. Mr. Hutton's flame was called Phoebe Hawkins—he remembers putting himself on record at the time as "loving his love with an F, because she was Feeby." Mr. Hutton's retrospect is tinged with a quaint humor that savors a little of Mark Twain, yet there is a manifest note of tender sentiment throughout. A number of family portraits, evidently from old daguerreotypes and photographs, form a novel feature of the little volume.

*Inside views of  
railroad life.*

The good graphic quality and rugged realism of Mr. Herbert Elliott Hamblen's "On Many Seas" are again manifest in his capital picture of the career of a "railroad man" entitled "The General Manager's Story" (Macmillan). While the story is cast in the form of fiction, the experiences are, we should judge, real, and the writer's own,—though this assumption involves the inference that he has been a "railroad man" as well as a sailor. At any rate, the book is a most realistic one, showing an intimate knowledge of the life and the characters it portrays. A number of spirited illustrations materially enliven the text.

*Du Maurier  
and some of his  
fellow craftsmen.*

Some of the late George Du Maurier's entertaining chats about his art and some of his older fellow craftsmen, notably Leech and Keene, are collected in a dainty volume of a hundred or so pages entitled "Social

Pictorial Satire" (Harper). A liberal number of specimen drawings are given, in which Keene's artistic superiority to his popular predecessor on "Punch" is clearly apparent. Leech's drawings are mostly slight things, but the fun conveyed is always kindly and wholesome, if sometimes rather mild—even for "Punch." There are three portraits in the volume.

#### BRIEFER MENTION.

Dr. and Mrs. Frankland's memoir of Pasteur (Macmillan) is a model of biography. Clear, concise, and complete, it photographs the man without using the art of the retoucher, and tells the story of his achievements. As recorded on his mausoleum in the Institut Pasteur in Paris, these were investigations of molecular dissymmetry, 1848; fermentations, 1857; generations called spontaneous, 1862; maladies of wine and beer, 1863-71; diseases of the silk worm, 1865; infectious plagues and immunity against them, 1877-80; protection against hydrophobia, 1885. Any one of these should have insured his fame.

Mr. Paul Leicester Ford has many titles to the gratitude of students interested in American history, and none more clear than that which is due him for his edition of "The Federalist," just published by Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. in a volume of eight hundred pages. Mr. Ford has gone very thoroughly into the questions of disputed authorship, and provided a great variety of apparatus including an extensive and searching index. The work is admirably done in all important respects, and should be upon the desk of every teacher of American constitutional history.

"Allen & Greenough's Cæsar" is sadly familiar to many generations of inappreciative schoolboys, and they, at least, will hardly give a cordial welcome to the new edition of the work, now published by Messrs. Ginn & Co. "To satisfy the ever-increasing demands of modern secondary education" has been the aim of the editors, who are three in number, Messrs. B. L. D'Ooge and M. Grant Daniell having aided Professor Greenough in bringing the text and the apparatus up to date. The volume, although devoted to "The Gallic War" alone, now extends to over six hundred pages, and is very thoroughly illustrated.

#### LITERARY NOTES.

A useful "Comparative Chart of Prominent English Authors," compiled by Mr. J. B. Horner, is published by the Macmillan Co.

Messrs. Eaton & Mains publish a book of "Easy Lessons in Vocal Culture and Vocal Expression," by Mr. S. S. Hamill, of Chicago.

Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons have just sent out "Vittoria" and "Sandra Belloni" in their new edition of the novels of Mr. George Meredith.

The "Guide-Book to Alaska," published for several years past by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., appears in a new edition with an added chapter on the Klondike.

The New York "Independent" announces an early change of form. The page of the monthly magazines will be substituted for the unwieldy page with which its

readers are now familiar, and we think the change will meet with general approval. The subscription price will also be reduced to two dollars a year.

A new edition, in twenty volumes, of Messrs. J. M. Dent & Co.'s well-known "Saintsbury Balzac" is announced by the Crosscup & Sterling Co. of New York.

Mr. David Williamson, editor of the Windsor Magazine of London, has prepared a non-political life of Gladstone, and the work will be issued at once by Mr. M. F. Mansfield.

"The Athenian Secretaries," by Mr. William Scott Ferguson, is the latest monograph in the series of "Cornell Studies in Classical Philology," published for the University by the Macmillan Co.

Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son & Co. announce for immediate publication an important medical monograph entitled "Hay Fever, its Successful Treatment," by Dr. W. C. Hollopeter of Philadelphia.

Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co. publish "The Essentials of Argumentation," by Mr. Elias J. MacEwan, a well-planned and practical text-book, the outgrowth of much experience in the teaching of English.

"Ivanhoe," in two volumes of the "Temple" Scott, is imported by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons. From the same importers we have Volume VI. of Carlyle's "Frederick the Great," in the new "Centenary" edition.

There are two new volumes in the series of "Stories by Foreign Authors" (Scribner). One of them contains four translations from the German, the other five translations from the Spanish. The frontispiece portraits are Auerbach and Alarcon.

The American Chess Magazine, published by Mr. William Borsodi, New York, has just completed its first volume, and already ranks with the best publications of its class. The volumes will be semi-annual hereafter, beginning with July and January.

The American Book Co. send us a "Revised Text-Book of Geology," by the late Professor Dana, edited by Dr. William North Rice, and "An Elementary Course in the Integral Calculus," by Dr. Daniel A. Murray, published in the "Cornell Mathematical Series."

A new addition to the many recent books on naval subjects is "The Nation's Navy," by Mr. Charles Morris, to be issued shortly by the J. B. Lippincott Co. A new edition of Michael Scott's famous sea-story, "Tom Cringle's Log," is also announced by the same firm.

Messrs. Luzac & Co., London, send us the bound volume for 1897 of their monthly "Oriental List." It makes a convenient reference catalogue of the year's publications in the Oriental field, and its value is at least doubled by the addition of an index.

In the list of "Books for the Hour," printed in the last issue of THE DIAL, the reference under Amicis' "Spain" was to an unauthorized edition, whereas it should have been to the well-known authorized editions (Library, \$2.00, "Guadalquivir," illustrated, \$15.00) issued by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The New York "Critic" is about to become a monthly magazine, thus leaving the field of weekly journalism and entering upon that cultivated by "The Bookman." The first issue in the new form will be a double number for July and August, and will appear July 25. The price of subscription will be two dollars.

The monumental "History of the Jews," upon which the late Heinrich Graetz was for so many years engaged, is now brought to completion (as far as the American edition is concerned) by the appearance of a sixth or

"index" volume. Such an index as this is a blessed thing to have, and doubles the value of the five preceding volumes. A memoir of the author, some tables of Jewish history, and a number of maps, complete the contents of the present volume. It is issued by the Jewish Publication Society of America.

"How to Name the Birds" (Scribner), by Mr. H. E. Parkhurst, is "a pocket guide to all the land birds and to the principal water fowl normally found in the New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, for the use of field ornithologists." It is a small volume, in flexible leather binding, without illustrations.

Volume LV. of "The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine" includes the six months ending last April, and contains the usual thousand pages, more or less, of excellent reading. The articles about Andrée and the Klondike are still timely enough, while Mr. Cole's engravings are probably the feature of the greatest permanent value.

The "Introduction to the Study of English Fiction" (Heath), which Professor W. E. Simonds published two or three years ago, was a very small book, but it has been condensed still further, and now reappears in a "briefer edition," which enables us again to commend it to teachers and students of English as a helpful adjunct to their work.

The second summer assembly of the Jewish Chautauqua Society will fill the fortnight from July 10 to July 24, and the place of meeting will be Atlantic City, N. J. An attractive programme has been published in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, with other desired information, from the headquarters of the Society, P. O. Box 825, Philadelphia.

"The Spaniard in History" (Funk), by Mr. James C. Fernald, is a small book, setting forth the traditional English view of Spanish history, and having much to say about Spanish atrocities committed in past centuries. It is a book intended for popular consumption, and the bias of the author is almost as evident as if he were writing for a yellow newspaper.

The students in the English department of the University of Kansas gave an outdoor performance of "As You Like It" early last month. The entertainment proved so successful that it had to be repeated for the benefit of the general public. Elizabethan costumes and stage arrangements were brought into use as far as possible under the conditions, and a programme of old English songs given in University Hall provided an acceptable side-show.

The following account of the present condition of Herr Nietzsche was recently given by the sister of the philosopher to the Berlin correspondent of the London "Daily News": "In the doctor's opinion recovery is an utter impossibility. . . . He sleeps well, takes a friendly interest in everything going on around him, and listens attentively when I read to him. He especially likes to hear French, but I do not think he can follow me. Besides, I dare only read a short time, so as not to tire him. He by no means makes the impression of an insane man. His eyes are beautiful and clear. He has retained much of his old dignity and elegance, but he speaks little, and the paralysis shows itself in his heavy and unsteady gait and movements. He is perfectly ignorant of the awful fate that has befallen him, and this fact I feel to be a great comfort. He cannot bear tears, and has often said to me reproachfully, 'Why are you weeping, my sister? We are happy, are we not?'"

## BOOKS FOR SUMMER READING.

### A SELECT LIST OF SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

[Fuller descriptions of the following books may be found in the advertising pages of this number or of recent numbers of THE DIAL.]

#### FICTION.

- Helbeck of Bannisdale. By Mrs. Humphry Ward. Macmillan Co. \$2.  
 Rupert of Hentzau. By Anthony Hope. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.50.  
 The King's Jackal. By Richard Harding Davis. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
 The Head of the Family. By Alphonse Daudet; trans. by Levin Carnac. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.  
 The Girl at Cobhurst. By Frank R. Stockton. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.  
 The Story of a Play. By W. D. Howells. Harper & Brothers. \$1.50.  
 Shrewsbury. By Stanley J. Weyman. Longmans, Green, & Co. \$1.50.  
 The War of the Worlds. By H. G. Wells. Harper & Brothers. \$1.50.  
 Soldiers of Fortune. By Richard Harding Davis. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.  
 Evelyn Innes. By George Moore. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.  
 The Forest Lovers. By Maurice Hewlett. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.  
 The Vintage. By E. F. Benson. Harper & Brothers. \$1.50.  
 The Gospel of Freedom. By Robert Herrick. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.  
 The Romance of Zion Chapel. By Richard Le Gallienne. John Lane. \$1.50.  
 American Wives and English Husbands. By Gertrude Atherton. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.  
 The Continental Dragoon. By Robert Neilson Stephens. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.50.  
 Kronstadt. By Max Pemberton. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.  
 Silence, and Other Stories. By Mary E. Wilkins. Harper & Brothers. \$1.25.  
 The Terror. By Félix Gras; trans. by Catharine A. Janvier. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.  
 The Celebrity. By Winston Churchill. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.  
 Folks from Dixie. By Paul Laurence Dunbar. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.  
 Dreamers of the Ghetto. By I. Zangwill. Harper & Brothers. \$1.50.  
 The Pride of Jennico. By Agnes and Egerton Castle. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.  
 The Waters of Canby Fork. By Opie Read. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 The Red-Bridge Neighborhood. By Maria Louise Pool. Harper & Brothers. \$1.50.  
 The Making of a Frig. By Evelyn Sharp. John Lane. \$1.50.  
 The Peacemakers. By John Strange Winter. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.  
 Caleb West, Master Diver. By F. Hopkinson Smith. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50.  
 Comedies and Errors. By Henry Harland. John Lane. \$1.50.  
 The Vicar. By Joseph Hutton. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.  
 Her Ladyship's Elephant. By D. D. Wells. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.25.  
 Whoso Findeth a Wife. By William Le Queux. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 The Prisoner of Zenda. By Anthony Hope. New illustrated edition. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.50.  
 The Ducket Sperret. By Sarah Barnwell Elliott. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.25.  
 Arachne. By Georg Ebers. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.  
 Sons of Adversity. By L. Cope Cornford. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Making of a Saint. By W. Somerset Maugham. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.50.  
 For Love of Country. By Cyrus Townsend Brady. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
 In the Swim. By Richard Henry Savage. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 Hassan, a Fellah. By Henry Gillman. Little, Brown, & Co. \$2.



- Penelope's Progress. By Kate Douglas Wiggin. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Crook of the Bough. By Mémie Muriel Dowie. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
 Bobbie McDuff. By Clinton Ross. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.  
 The Duenna of a Genius. By M. E. Francis. Little, Brown, & Co. \$1.50.  
 Pastime Stories. By Thomas Nelson Page. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
 Madam of the Ivies. By Elizabeth Phipps Train. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.  
 In Kings' Houses. By Julia C. R. Dorr. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.50.  
 The King's Henchman. By William Henry Johnson. Little, Brown, & Co. \$1.50.  
 Rose à Charlotte. By Marshall Saunders. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.50.  
 Ghosts I Have Met, and Some Others. By John Kendrick Bangs. Harper & Brothers. \$1.25.  
 At You-All's House. By James Newton Baskett. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.  
 Cross Trials. By Victor Waite. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.50.  
 Liddy Marget. By L. B. Walford. Longmans, Green, & Co. \$1.50.  
 Bijli the Dancer. By James Blythe Patton. L. C. Page & Co. \$1.50.  
 Señorita Montemar. By Archer P. Crouch. Harper & Brothers. \$1.25.  
 The Marbeau Cousins. By Harry Stillwell Edwards. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 The Latimers. By Dr. Henry C. McCook. George W. Jacobs & Co. \$1.50.  
 The Fire of Life. By Charles K. Burrow. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.25.  
 Love and Rocks. By Laura E. Richards. Estes & Lauriat. \$1.  
 A Valuable Life. By Adeline Sergeant. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 Lucky Bargees. By Harry Lander. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.25.  
 For Love of a Bedouin Maid. By Le Voleur. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 At the Sign of the Silver Crescent. By Helen Choate Prince. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.  
 King Circumstance. By Edwin Pugh. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.25.  
 The Dull Miss Archinard. By Anne Douglas Sedgwick. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
 A Cape Cod Week. By Annie Eliot Trumbull. A. S. Barnes & Co. \$1.  
 Cornell Stories. By James Gardner Sanderson. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.  
 The Final War. By Louis Tracy. New edition. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 75 cts.

## TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION.

- From Tonkin to India. By Prince Henri d'Orléans, trans. by Hamley Bent. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$5.  
 Brown Men and Women, or The South Sea Islands in 1895 and 1896. By Edward Reeves. Macmillan Co. \$3.50.  
 The Awakening of a Nation (Mexico). By Charles F. Lummis. Harper & Brothers. \$2.50.  
 Through Finland in Carts. By Mrs. Alec Tweedie. Macmillan Co. \$3.  
 Through the Gold-Fields of Alaska to Bering Straits. By Harry de Windt. Harper & Brothers. \$2.50.  
 Across the Sub-Arctic of Canada. By J. W. Tyrrell. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$2.  
 Gondola Days. By F. Hopkinson Smith. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50.  
 Farthest North. By Dr. Fridtjof Nansen. New popular edition. Harper & Brothers. \$3.  
 Alaska. By A. P. Swineford, Ex-Governor of Alaska. Rand, McNally & Co. \$1.  
 Eastern Journeys. By Charles A. Dana. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.

## OUT-OF-DOOR LIFE.

- With Nature and a Camera. By Richard Kearton. Cassell & Co. \$5.  
 Bird Studies. By William E. D. Scott. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$5.  
 Nature for its Own Sake. By John C. Van Dyke. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.

- Familiar Life in Field and Forest. By F. Schuyler Mathews. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.75.  
 Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America. By Frank M. Chapman. D. Appleton & Co. \$3.  
 Insect Life. By John Henry Comstock. D. Appleton & Co. \$2.50.  
 Birds of Village and Field. By Florence A. Merriam. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$2.  
 Bird Life. By Frank M. Chapman. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.75.  
 The Art of Taxidermy. By John Rowley. D. Appleton & Co. \$2.  
 How to Name the Birds. By H. E. Parkhurst. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.

## TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS.

July, 1898.

- Aino-Land. Mabel Loomis Todd. *Century*.  
 America, Evolution of. James K. Hosmer. *Atlantic*.  
 Austria-Hungary under Francis Joseph. A. von Schäffle. *Forum*.  
 Bowie, James, Passages from the Life of. *Harper*.  
 Britain, Our Relations with. James Bryce. *Atlantic*.  
 Bromwich Castle. Countess of Bradford. *Pall Mall*.  
 Colonial Dame. A. Caroline S. Bansemer. *Harper*.  
 Confederate Commerce-Destroyers. *Century*.  
 Consular Service, Our Inadequate. Stephen M. White. *Forum*.  
 Corrida, Ethics of a. Lucia Purdy. *Harper*.  
 Cotton Industry, Depression in the. L. F. McKinney. *Forum*.  
 Crime. J. Holt Schooling. *Pall Mall*.  
 Cuban Soil, First Fight on. Stephen Bonsal. *McClure*.  
 Dutch Painters, Modern. Elizabeth W. Champney. *Century*.  
 England, Military and Naval Glory of. Gen. Miles. *McClure*.  
 English Historical Grammar. Mark H. Liddell. *Atlantic*.  
 Equality. James Bryce. *Century*.  
 Fastest Vessel Afloat, The. Cleveland Moffett. *McClure*.  
 German Drama, Evolution of. E. von Wildebruch. *Forum*.  
 Gladstone. *Atlantic*.  
 Gladstone. Justin McCarthy. *Forum*.  
 Gladstone. W. T. Stead. *Review of Reviews*.  
 Hawaii, People of. Henry S. Townsend. *Forum*.  
 Heroes of the Deep. Herbert D. Ward. *Century*.  
 Hobson, Lieutenant. William H. Ward. *Rev. of Reviews*.  
 Indian Superstitions and Legends. Simon Pokagon. *Forum*.  
 International Relations Disturbed by an Insect. *Forum*.  
 Jones, John Paul. A. T. Mahan. *Scribner*.  
 Journalism, Notes on. George W. Smalley. *Harper*.  
 Kaiser Wilhelm, Ten Years of. Poultny Bigelow. *Century*.  
 Machinery and Labor. C. Wood Davis. *Forum*.  
 Manila and the Philippines. I. M. Elliott. *Scribner*.  
 Matanzas, Bombardment of. R. H. Davis. *Scribner*.  
 McKinley, Daily Life of, during the War. *McClure*.  
 Middle West, New Era in the. C. M. Harger. *Harper*.  
 Nation's Records, The. Adelaide R. Haass. *Forum*.  
 Natural-Bridge Region of Virginia. Bradford Torrey. *Atlantic*.  
 Naval Problems to be Solved in War. H. W. Wilson. *Pall Mall*.  
 People, The, and their Government. H. L. Nelson. *Harper*.  
 Philippine Islands, The. Frank F. Hilder. *Forum*.  
 Porto Rico as Seen Last Month. *Review of Reviews*.  
 "Quo Vadis," The Author of. Jeremiah Curtin. *Century*.  
 Romney, George. John C. Van Dyke. *Century*.  
 Russian Jew in America, The. Abraham Cahan. *Atlantic*.  
 Seville, Holy Week in. Stephen Bonsal. *Century*.  
 Ship, Story of the. W. Clark Russell. *Pall Mall*.  
 Siberia, Eastern. Stephen Bonsal. *Harper*.  
 Smith College, Undergraduate Life at. *Scribner*.  
 Soul's Pilgrimage. A. Charles F. B. Miel. *Atlantic*.  
 Spain, An Artistic Treasure from. Cornelia Dearth. *Century*.  
 Spain, Decadence of. Henry C. Lea. *Atlantic*.  
 Trans-Mississippi Exposition, The. H. W. Lanier. *Rev. of Rev.*  
 War and Money. J. Laurence Laughlin. *Atlantic*.  
 War, First Shot of the. R. H. Davis. *Scribner*.  
 War, Impressions of the. Henry Norman. *McClure*.  
 War Taxes, Our New. Max West. *Review of Reviews*.  
 Warfare, Modern, Ethics of. S. J. Barrows. *Forum*.  
 Wilhelm II. as Art Patron. Henry Eckford. *Century*.  
 Words, Old and New. Brander Matthews. *Harper*.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 82 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

## HISTORY.

- American History Told by Contemporaries. Edited by Albert Bushnell Hart. Vol. II., Building of the Republic, 1689-1783. 8vo, pp. 633. Macmillan Co. \$2.  
 Life in an Old English Town: A History of Coventry from the Earliest Times, Compiled from Official Records. By Mary Dormer Harris. Illus., 12mo, pp. 301. "Social England Series." Macmillan Co. \$1.25.  
 The Spaniard in History. By James C. Fernald. 12mo, pp. 144. Fank & Wagnalls Co. 75 cts.

## BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

- A Middy's Recollections, 1853-1860. By Rear-Admiral the Honourable Victor Alexander Montagu. Illus., 12mo, uncut, pp. 206. Macmillan Co. \$2.  
 Orestes A. Brownson's Early Life, from 1803 to 1844. By Henry F. Brownson. With portrait, large 8vo, pp. 356. Detroit: Published by the author.

## GENERAL LITERATURE.

- Letters of Mary Sibylla Holland. Selected and edited by her son, Bernard Holland. 8vo, uncut, pp. 303. London: Edward Arnold.  
 The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine. Vol. LV., illus., large 8vo, gilt top, pp. 960. Century Co. \$3.  
 Greek Tragedy in the Light of Vase Paintings. By John H. Huddleston, B.A. Illus., 12mo, uncut, pp. 183. Macmillan Co. \$1.75.  
 Selections from the Prose and Poetry of Walt Whitman. Edited by Oscar Lovell Triggs. With portrait, 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 257. Small, Maynard, & Co. \$1.25.  
 What Are You Doing Here? By Abram Conklin. 16mo, pp. 106. Boston: James H. West. 50 cts.

## NEW EDITIONS OF STANDARD LITERATURE.

- Complete Prose Works of Walt Whitman. Illus. in photogravure, 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 527. Small, Maynard, & Co. \$2.  
 History of Frederick the Great. By Thomas Carlyle. "Centenary" edition; Vol. VI., with portraits, 8vo, uncut, pp. 435. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
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